My Dear Friend

General Gages Recall to England gives me an opportunity of writing to you, the Second only Which I have had Since my arrival in this Country.

Since my last our Situation is greatly mended in every Respect and we are now able to get sometimes fresh Provisions, the scarsity of Which upon my first arrival has been the cause Why vast Numbers of the Wounded Men & Officers have dyed of their Wounds, even after they have been in a manner healed. I don't Imagine we shall undertake any thing more this Winter, but remain perfectly quiet till we get our Reinforcement in the Spring; for to the great Joy of us all we find that the Ministry have nobly determined to push Matters to extremity to subdue these perfidious

Wretches, and we are to have a british army here next Spring consisting of twenty thousand Stout, & Staunch Fellows. five Regiments we expect this Month. and two more companys of Artillery.

Never were poor people so deluded and lead away as these Miscreants who surround us on all Sides; five or Six of their leaders who are all Members of the Continental Congress who have kindled this flame now so difficult to quench, & whose Safetys & propertys all depend entirely upon their adding fuel to this fire, spread such false & Scandalous reports among them and teach them to believe that they must expect all Sorts of Cruelty & Barbarity if so unfortunate as to fall into our hands In short they through their prodigious Phrenzy for the Support of Liberty have worked them up to such a pitch that these poor Creatures are really quite out of their Senses. There is even now at this Moment a letter of their Generals (Washingtons) signed by his own hand circulating among them in which he

AW 286(1)

says that the people of England had risen in arms, that Mr Wilks at the head of forty thousand men had gone to the King and obliged him to send Lord North to the Tower, to chuse a new Administration, and to sign some papers in favour of the Americans -

These shameful & Groundless falshoods must necessarily soon be seen through and these deluded wretches will open their Eyes, to find themselves made the Butt & meer Tools of those crafty designing ever plotting Villains who have put themselves at their head - but I fancy they will find them rather late, for certainly when we come to take the field next Spring with an army of twenty thousand of Britons, one month briskly & vigourously Employed will surely utterly extirpate this Banditti.

I hope soon to hear (tho My Dear friend I have not had one Letter from you since I left you between Ratisbon & Nurenberg) that you are perfectly recovered from your Illness. and honoured to some Station far more agreeable to you than the one I left you in. My Best Respects to my Friend Liston, and any body else who do me the honor to enquire after me. Monsr la Coste, par hazard. I have wrote by this opportunity to Sr Robt Keith and la Comtes Thun, both whose civilitys I shall always remember with pleasure.

I think my Friend I am in a fair way of getting a Company by the opening of the next Campaign, & then all Matters will be settled just as well as if I had come into the army when I first had Intended so to do.

I won't take up any more of your time but conclude by assuring you that I am & ever shall remain

My Dearest Friend

Camp at Boston Octr 10th 1775

Yours Sincerely

Thos Stanley

General Howe is appointed Commander in chief & takes the Command on this side the Water
General Clinton commands on Charlestown heights.

RW 286(2)

MS Am 228(2)